

independent sovereign state of Palestine with well defined and secure borders living at peace with its neighbours.

(b) to (d) Relations with countries concerned would enable the Government of India to engage and contribute more effectively to the peace process and to the Palestine issue.

Opposition to US imperialisms

1679. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any struggle against terrorism can be successfully carried on without a strong opposition to US imperialisms unilateralism in the name of its self proclaimed doctrine of pre-emptive action; and

(b) if not, the role the country played in condemning US's brazen violation of national sovereignty through the use of military force as in Iraq, the continued threats of sanctions against Iran and the support of Israel's military aggression in Asia etc.?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government of India recognizes the need for cooperation to fight terrorism in view of the international linkages of modern terrorist organizations and the transnational dimensions it has assumed in today's world. As part of this effort, India is engaged in counter-terrorism dialogues with a number of countries including the United States. India is committed in its efforts to combat global terrorism and has taken the initiative for a Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism (CCIT) at the United Nations.

(b) On Iraq, India's policy is guided by the unanimous resolution passed by the two Houses of Parliament in April 2003. On Iran, Prime Minister has laid out the Government's position in his *suo motu* statement to Parliament on February 17, 2006. On Israel, the Government has consistently held the need for a durable solution to the problem between Israel and Palestine, balancing the twin objectives of creating a viable State for the Palestinian people and recognizing Israel's right to exist. Government of India is of the view that all parties should renounce violence and solve the dispute through peaceful means.